

Mr. D. G. G. G. G.
Mr. Bowler III.

AB
MR. HALLETT.



SIXTY-THIRD
ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE
Health of Stafford

H. B. BINKS

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Cantab)

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1936

STAFFORD :

ALLISON & BOWEN, LTD., 19 GREENGATE STREET





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STAFF

OF THE

Public Health Department

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
Medical Superintendent Infectious Diseases Hospital, and
Medical Officer Infant Welfare Centre.

*J. T. MACNAB, M.A., M.B., B.Ch. (Cantab.), D.P.H.
(Resigned, April 30th, 1936).

*†H. B. BINKS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Cantab.),
(From May 1st, 1936).

VETERINARY INSPECTOR,
Under Diseases of Animals Acts,
W. G. THOMSON, M.R.C.V.S.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR,
Lodging-house Inspector, Inspector under the Canal Boats
Act, and Inspector under the Housing Consolidated Regula-
tions, 1925 and 1932.

*JAMES H. DRURY, Cert. R. San. Inst.,
and Certificated Meat Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTOR,
*I. O. WILLIAMS, Cert. R. San. Inst.,
and Certificated Meat Inspector.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR,
H. E. T. LOWBRIDGE, Cert. S.I.B.
and Certificated Meat Inspector.

PUPIL IN SANITARY INSPECTORS' DEPARTMENT,
S. A. GREGORY, Cert. S.I.B.

HEALTH VISITORS,
and Assistant Sanitary Inspectors,
*MISS C. E. SUFFIELD, H.V. & S.I. Certs. R.S.I.,
Cert. Cent. Midwives Board.
*MISS E. E. BRIGGS, S.R.N., H.V. & M. & C. W. Certs.
R.S.I., Cert. Cent. Midwives Board.

MATRON OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL,
MRS IDA HOME.

CLERK,
R. FOWELL.

*Salaries contributed to under Public Health Acts or by
Exchequer Grants. All are whole-time Officers, except the
Veterinary Inspector, and that the Health Visitors devote a
portion of their time to work under the Staffordshire, Wol-
verhampton and Dudley Joint Committee for Tuberculosis.

†Services of the Medical Officer of Health by arrangement
are loaned to the County for School Medical Duties for four
sessions per week.

BOROUGH HEALTH OFFICE,

5, MARTIN STREET,
STAFFORD.

20th April, 1937.

**To the Chairman and Members of
the Public Health Committee.**

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you the Sixty-third Annual Report on the Health of the people and the sanitary condition of your Borough.

The report is drawn up in accordance with the instructions laid down in the Ministry of Health Circular No. 1561 dated 16th October, 1936.

You will find that the report deals with a period under two Medical Officers, Dr Macnab and myself, and, thus, in the main will follow along the lines laid down by him in his recent annual reports.

It will be noted that the very favourable statistics representing conditions that obtained last year have not been maintained, and that in common with the rest of the country most of the figures disclose a slightly adverse change.

The latter end of the year has been an interesting one—not altogether on account of schemes endorsed, but on account of schemes brought up for review.

The Public Health Committee have been concerned with the Isolation Hospital and the schemes connected therewith, advanced in turn by the County Council and a Joint Hospital Committee composed of several Local Authorities. This is still under consideration.

The sewerage of the Baswich district is nearing completion, and consideration in the near future will probably be directed to the solving of the drainage problems in the Rickerscote area.

At Shugborough the boring for a new additional water supply is nearing completion.

Largely on account of the increased duties placed upon them by recent legislation and also on account of the Borough extension, the Committee decided to increase the Staff by the appointment of an additional Sanitary Inspector and a Junior Clerk.

The Housing Committee have been able to house displaced families from condemned houses and also the smaller families from overcrowded houses, but on account of the difficulty in obtaining suitable building sites the housing of the larger overcrowded families is being held up, and for the same cause the representation of unsatisfactory property is also being delayed. There are still a number of applicants for Council Houses, both from within and without the Borough.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee have had under discussion (1) Climateric Clinics, (2) Birth Control, (3) Day Nurseries, (4) A New Welfare Centre, (5) and have introduced a domiciliary scheme for the medical examination of expectant mothers, (6) introduced a Minor Ailments Clinic at the Welfare Centre, and (7) adopted a more generous scale in the provision of free milk to mothers and children, and extended the scheme to cover out-patient orthopædic treatment and also dental treatment for nursing and expectant mothers.

I have now to express to you, Mr. Chairman, and to all members of the Committee, my thanks for the patience and forbearance, which you have all shown to me, in this, my first year as your Medical Officer.

In the preparation of this report, and also for their support and willingness in co-operating with me during the last seven months, my thanks are due to all members of the staff.

May I conclude by recording the pleasant and friendly manner in which Dr. Macnab imparted to me the essential information necessary to ensure the smooth working of the Department.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. B. BINKS.

REPORT

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

General Statistics.

Area of Borough	5,089 acres
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (1936)	31,070
Density of population or number of persons per acre (1936)	6.1
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1936)	
according to Rate Books	7,600
Rateable value (31st March, 1936) ...	£182,063
Sum represented by a penny rate (1935/36) ·	£706 12 10 ³ / ₄

Social Conditions.

Mr. A. Weaver, Manager of the Employment Exchange, has supplied me with the following information :—

“ The chief industries, trades, and occupations of Stafford are as under :—

	Number of Insured Workpeople Employed.			
	Men	Women	Juveniles	Total
(a) Electrical Engineering	2089	578	821	3488
(b) Internal Combustion Engines	500	48	103	651
(c) Locomotive Engineering	550	10	192	752
(d) Boot and Shoe	999	1081	497	2577
(e) Wood Heel Manufacture	119	133	35	287
(f) Emery Wheel Manufacture ...	557	72	63	692
(g) Wire for reinforced concrete	206	50	52	308
(h) Building	685	29	72	786
(i) Distributing Trades	762	471	313	1546
(j) Local Government Service ...	1727	55	31	1813

“ The total insurable population in the area is 15,949.

“ The year which ended Dec., 1936 shows a still further improvement in the local employment situation ; whereas on the 16th December 1935, there were 522 persons unemployed in the Borough (representing 3.65% of the insured popula-

tion) on 21st December 1936 there were only 473 persons unemployed (representing 2.96% of the insured population). On the same date the percentage of unemployment for the whole country was 13%.

“ The peak figure of unemployment during the year in Stafford occurred on 20th January 1936, when the live register of unemployed reached 872, as against 1263 on 29th July, 1935.

“ All industries within the Borough may be regarded as satisfactory. In the engineering sections trade is particularly brisk, and the shortage of workers is being met to a large extent by the importation of men from other districts, while it is of interest to note that Stafford has been of considerable help to the depressed areas of the country by finding employment for a number of men and juveniles who have been transferred from areas where their hope of obtaining a livelihood is practically negligible. Here, in Stafford, they are being taught trades and occupations which will fit them to become skilled mechanics of the future.”

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

BIRTHS.

	Male	Female	Total
Total Live Births.....	206	189	395
Legitimate	199	186	385
Illegitimate	7	3	10
Birth Rate per 1,000 population 12.7.			

Birth Rate per 1,000 population, for the 143 Smaller Towns of England and Wales, 15.

	Male	Female	Total
Total Still Births	15	4	19
Legitimate	13	4	17
Illegitimate	2	—	2

Still Birth Rate : 46 per 1,000 births
 „ „ „ .61 per 1,000 population
 „ „ „ .64 for the 143 Smaller Towns of England & Wales, per 1,000 population

Although the population as estimated by the Registrar General shows an increase of 100 persons, the Birth Rate is the second lowest recorded for the Borough. A table for the

last six years, including the year 1931 when the lowest rate was recorded, follows..

Year	Total Births	Birth Rate	Total Still Births	Still Birth Rate	Smaller Towns of England & Wales
1931 ...	348	11.8	18	49	15.6
1932 ...	408	13.8	19	44	15.4
1933 ...	383	13.0	23	57	14.5
1934 ...	394	12.9	20	48	15.0
1935 ...	429	13.8	14	32	14.8
1936 ...	395	12.7	19	46	15.0

Total M. F.

DEATHS: 337 169 168 Recorded Death Rate 10.8.

The death rate is affected by the age and sex of the population concerned, being higher among an elderly population and also, to some extent, among males as compared with females of similar age.

The Registrar-General supplies a “Comparability Factor” to each district based on the age and sex of its population as shown at the last Census. When the recorded death rate of a town is multiplied by this factor the corrected death rate is obtained. This is truly comparable with the death rate of any town similarly treated.

The factor for correction for Stafford is 1.03 and the corrected **Death Rate is 11.1**, compared with 11.5 for the 143 Smaller Towns and 10.3 for Stafford last year.

The causes of death are shown below :—

Causes of death.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers ...	1	—	1
Measles	1	—	1
Scarlet fever	—	—	—
Whooping cough	—	1	1
Diphtheria	—	1	1
Influenza	2	2	4
Encephalitis lethargica	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	11	7	18
Other tuberculous diseases	2	2	4
Syphilis	1	1	2
General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	2	—	2
Cancer, malignant disease	20	27	47
Diabetes	4	2	6
Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc.	8	7	15
Heart disease	32	38	70
Aneurysm	1	—	1
Other circulatory diseases	7	12	19
Bronchitis	11	9	20
Pneumonia (all forms)	13	6	19
Other respiratory diseases	1	1	2
Peptic ulcer	1	1	2
Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	1	—	1
Appendicitis	1	1	2
Cirrhosis of liver	4	2	6
Other diseases of liver, etc.....	—	1	1
Other digestive diseases	4	4	8
Acute and chronic nephritis	6	11	17
Puerperal sepsis	—	—	—
Other puerperal causes	—	1	1
Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	12	6	18
Senility	6	8	14
Suicide	2	3	5
Other violence	5	3	8
Other defined diseases	10	11	21
Causes ill-defined or unknown	—	—	—
Total deaths	169	168	337

There are 25 more deaths than last year ; Bronchitis and Pneumonia (13 more) Cancer (12 more), diseases of the Kidney (8 more), and the deaths of infants due to congenital debility, prematurity and malformation (8 more) account for the chief increases, whereas deaths from Cerebral Hæmorrhage (11 less) show a reduction.

Of the Cancer deaths, thirteen males and thirteen females died from the disease affecting the digestive system. In the younger ages the stomach was the main site of the disease, whereas in older people the lower bowel was affected. Numbers are too few to draw therefrom any conclusions, but it is probable that improper diet and hurried meals may be the causal factors and the recent interest shown in the diet

and exercise of the people is to be commended but the importance of regular rest periods, especially for the young must not be overlooked.

Age group	Total	Cancer of						
		Buccal cavity and pharynx	Digestive organs and peritoneum	Breast	Uterus	Other genital urinary	Primary site not stated	Unspecified organs
15—25 Male	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Female	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
25—45 Male	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Female	4	—	3	—	—	—	—	1
45—65 Male	8	—	5	—	—	1	1	1
Female	13	1	7	3	2	—	—	—
65 + Male	9	2	6	—	—	—	1	—
Female	8	—	3	—	—	2	1	2
	45	3	26	3	2	3	3	5

123, or 36.5%, of the deaths took place at ages of 70 years and over.

ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.—Five deaths were due to zymotic diseases, giving a rate of 0.16 as compared with 0.16, the average for the preceding ten years.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	1
„ „ Typhoid Fever (all ages)	...	...	...	1
„ „ Whooping cough (all ages)	...	...	...	1
„ „ Diphtheria (all ages)	...	...	...	1
„ „ Diarrhœa (under two years of age)	...	...	...	1

Total Zymotic Deaths, 5.

Death rates from the main causes are :—

Heart disease (70 cases)	...	...	...	2.25
Cancer (47 cases)	...	...	...	1.51
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, etc. (41 cases)	...	...	...	1.32
Cerebral hæmorrhage (15 cases)	...	...	...	0.48
Tuberculosis (all forms) (22 cases)	...	...	...	0.70
Old age (14 cases)	...	...	...	0.45
Violence (13 cases)	...	...	...	0.41
				—7.12
All other causes (115 cases)	...	...	...	3.70
Total	...	...	...	10.82

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY } { England and Wales, 122 County Boroughs and Great Towns,
in the year, 1936. } and 143 Smaller Towns.

	RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.		ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.								RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.			PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.			
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes.	Typhoid & Paratyphoid fevers.	Small-pox	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years).	Total Deaths under One year.	Certified by Registered Medical Practitioners.	Inquest Cases.	Certified by Coroner after P.M. No Inquest	Uncertified Causes of Death.
England and Wales	14.8	0.61	12.1	0.01	—	0.07	0.01	0.05	0.07	0.14	0.52	5.9	59	Not available			
London	13.6	0.53	12.5	0.01	—	0.14	0.01	0.06	0.05	0.14	0.52	14.4	66				
122 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	14.9	0.67	12.3	0.01	—	0.09	0.01	0.06	0.08	0.14	0.45	8.2	63				
43 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	15.0	0.64	11.5	0.00	—	0.04	0.01	0.04	0.05	0.15	0.39	3.4	55				
STAFFORD	12.7	0.61	11.1	0.03	—	0.03	—	0.03	0.03	0.12	0.41	2.5	60	93.0	3.8	2.6	0.6

The maternal mortality rates for England and Wales are as follows : { per 1,000 Live Births ... } Total.
Puerperal Sepsis. 1.40 2.41 3.81
" " Total Births 1.34 2.31 3.65

There was one maternal death in Stafford during the year.

Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and child birth :—

There was one death from these causes.

Death rate of Infants under one year of age :—There were 24 deaths (16 males and 8 females), three of whom were illegitimate children.

All infants per 1,000 live births 60
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 54
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 300

The following table gives the infant mortality for 1936 and for the previous ten years :—

Year	Births	Under one month.		Under one year.	
		Deaths	Rate per 1000 births	Deaths	Rate per 1000 births
1926	481	16	33	29	60
1927	455	12	26	22	48
1928	434	15	35	26	60
1929	446	13	29	28	63
1930	411	9	22	22	53
1931	348	12	34	22	63
1932	408	18	44	27	66
1933	383	16	42	23	60
1934	394	13	33	20	51
1935	429	8	19	16	37
Average for 10 yrs.	418.9	13.2	31.3	23.1	56.1
1936	395	17	43	24	60

DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR.

Causes of Death.	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Gastro enteritis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Uræmia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Asphixia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Convulsions	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Bronchitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Congenital malformation	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	3
Premature birth	6	1	1	1	10	1	1	1	1	3
Whooping cough.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10
Marasmus	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Jaundice	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
TOTAL	12	4	1	1	17	1	2	2	2	24

The infant mortality rate of 60 is higher than the low record of 37 attained last year. The rise is explained by the increased number of premature babies born. The numbers of still-born babies are also greater. It would appear that the number of still-births and cases of prematurity are affected directly by the following conditions :—Insufficiency of the quality foods ; the increasing number of first births ; the presence of twins ; and the desire on the part of the mother not to lower the standard of living of the other members of the family. This may even lead to active interference of pregnancy on her part.

Means to combat this state of affairs are many, but the following are possible :—(1) Improving the housing standard, for those who cannot afford it, without increasing the rent, (2) increasing the knowledge of foodstuffs, and encouraging the mother to be more selfish during the carrying period, and (3) trying to instil into ourselves as well as others the difference between luxuries and essentials.

STILL-BIRTHS.—Nineteen still-births took place, giving a rate of 46 per 1,000 births (including still-born). Fifteen were males and four females. The following particulars were ascertained :—

Deformity of infant	...	...	...	...	5
Malpresentation	...	...	...	...	1
Maternal ill health	...	...	...	...	1
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	4
Placenta prævia	...	...	...	...	1
Twin birth	...	...	...	...	1
Inattention at birth	...	...	...	...	1
No cause ascertained	...	...	...	...	5

Nine of the mothers had been attended at the confinement by their own doctor. Three had been attended ante-natally under the Borough scheme.

DEATHS OF CHILDREN FROM 1—5 YEARS.—There were five deaths at these ages. Two were due to Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis ; the others to Anæmia, Nephritis, and Pneumonia.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Home Nursing.

The general nursing of the district is provided by the Stafford District Nurses' Society. Tipping Street. The

Society also provides nursing for cases of Measles and other ailments of the young when requested by the Medical Officer of Health to do so, and receives an annual grant from the Council for this. During the year 19 cases were nursed under this arrangement, and 442 visits were made to them.

Midwives.

The Council does not employ or subsidise practising midwives. Ten midwives practised in the Borough during 1936, all of whom were certificated.

Laboratory Facilities.

The examination or analysis of clinical material (sputum, swabs, etc.), water, milk, and foodstuffs is carried out by the County Bacteriologist and the County Analyst at the County Laboratories, Martin Street, Stafford.

Adoptive Acts, etc., in Force in the District.

LOCAL ACTS.

Stafford Corporation Acts of 1876, 1880, and 1896.

ADOPTIVE ACTS RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH.	Date of Adoption.
Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890	... 1891
Baths and Wash-houses Acts	... 1891
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890	... 1891
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, Parts II., III. (except Sections 39 to 42 inclusive), IV., V., VI., and X.	... 1923
Public Health Act, 1925, Parts II (except Section 34) III., IV., and V.	... 1926

BYE-LAWS.	Date of Adoption or revision.
Water Closets (made under Stafford Corporation Act, 1896)	... 1897
Offensive Trades	... 1923
Slaughterhouses	... 1927
Common Lodging Houses	... 1927
Prevention of Nuisances	... 1928
New Streets and Buildings and the Drainage of Existing Buildings	... 1936

Hospitals.

STAFFORDSHIRE GENERAL INFIRMARY, FOREGATE STREET.
—The hospital is being enlarged, and, when the scheme is

completed, there will be amongst other advantages, an addition of 20 beds for adults and 14 cots for children on the ground floor, and 14 single beds for private patients on the first floor. The extensions will cost approximately £30,000.

MARSTON ROAD INSTITUTION.—This was the Poor Law Infirmary, and is used by the chronic sick.

COUNTY MENTAL HOSPITAL, GAOL SQUARE.—This has accommodation for 1,100 patients, and is under the control of the County Mental Hospitals Board.

COTON HILL MENTAL HOSPITAL, WESTON ROAD.—For private patients, and has accommodation for 150.

BOROUGH ISOLATION HOSPITAL, TITHE BARN ROAD.—Provided jointly by the Stafford Borough Council and the Stafford Rural District Council for the treatment of Scarlet fever, Diphtheria, and Enteric fever.

SMALL POX HOSPITAL, MOXLEY.—The Corporation are members of the South Staffordshire Joint Small Pox Hospital Board, and are thus part proprietors of the Small Pox Hospital at Moxley, to which any cases of the disease are admitted.

TUBERCULOSIS.—Local cases are treated in the institutions provided by the Staffordshire, Wolverhampton and Dudley Joint Committee for Tuberculosis.

MATERNITY HOSPITALS.—Nil.

ORTHOPÆDIC.—Cases requiring operative treatment are admitted to the hospitals at Hartshill and Standon Hall.

Institution for Homeless Children.

The Cottage Homes in Stone Road have accommodation for 60 children.

Ambulance Facilities.

A motor ambulance is maintained by the Council and is available for the town and surrounding district. It is housed in a local garage, and is used for general ambulance work, also for infectious cases (subject to disinfection). Applications should be made to the Police, Stafford (Tel. No. 1, Stafford).

No complaint has been made as to the inadequacy of the service regarding infectious disease, but the provision of one ambulance is neither sufficient to meet the general needs of the District, nor is the present ambulance sufficiently well sprung to convey the seriously ill or the badly injured. The matter has been discussed, and the provision of an additional ambulance for general work has been decided upon.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.—At the Wesley Schools, Queen Street, provided by the Borough Council, and staffed by the Public Health Department, with assistance from the Guild of Social Welfare. This centre is open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to noon, and from 2 to 4 p.m.

MINOR AILMENTS CLINIC.—In response to Circular 1550, which was issued by the Minister during the year, the Welfare Committee decided to recommend the opening of the Centre daily from 9 to 10 a.m. for the treatment of minor ailments.

SCHOOL CLINIC.—For minor ailments, dental, ear, nose and throat, and ophthalmic. In Mill Bank. Provided by the County Education Committee.

ORTHOPÆDIC CLINIC.—In premises situated in Sandon Road. Provided by the Stafford Cripples' Centre. The arrangements under which Child Welfare cases are able to benefit from this are mentioned under Maternity and Child Welfare.

ARTIFICIAL LIGHT CLINIC.—Artificial light treatment is available at the General Infirmary.

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.—In Mill Bank, provided by the Staffordshire, Wolverhampton and Dudley Joint Committee for Tuberculosis.

VENEREAL DISEASES.—The County Council have now opened a clinic at the Staffordshire Infirmary. The other nearest clinics are those provided by the Stafford County Council at Wolverhampton and Stoke-on-Trent. Particulars can be obtained from the M.O.H. at 5, Martin Street.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The Borough Surveyor states :—
“ This continues to be satisfactory, both as to quality and quantity, although the demand on the well at Milford is rapidly approaching its maximum yield in dry weather.
“ Boring for a new source of water supply has been in operation at Shugborough since May last. The progress of this work has been delayed from time to time from various causes but it is anticipated that the borehole will be completed at an early date when the specified test pumping to ascertain the yield will be carried out.”
Reports on the water are obtained every three months from the County Analyst and the County Bacteriologist, and have always been entirely satisfactory. The following are the latest reports :—

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION.					Parts per 100,000
Total solid matter dried at 212°F	...	...	...	...	28
Free and saline ammonia	...	...	...	...	Nil
Albuminoid ammonia	...	...	...	...	.0020
Nitric Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	.34
Chlorine	...	...	...	...	4.6
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F	...	...	...	...	.011
Appearance	...	...	...	...	Clear
Injurious metallic contamination	...	...	...	...	None
pH. Value	...	...	...	...	7.5
Hardness before boiling	...	...	...	...	11.5°
Hardness after boiling	...	...	...	...	5.70°
Temporary hardness	...	...	...	...	5.80°
“ This water maintains its excellent quality chemically.”					

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.					Colonies per ml.
On nutrient agar after 48 hours incubation at 37°C	...	...	...	...	2
On nutrient agar after 72 hours incubation at 20—22°C	...	...	...	...	7
Coli aerogenes content (presumptive coli)—	None per				
100 ml. after 48 hours incubation at 37°C.					

“ The Ministry of Health Report No 71 suggests that when a Public water supply contains not more than two presumptive per 100 ml. the sample may be regarded as reasonably satisfactory.

“ From the bacteriological point of view this water is excellent.”

There are still 24 houses in the Borough which obtain their water supply from wells.

Swimming Bath.

This, which is owned by the Corporation, is recognised as one of the best in the Midlands. It is 80 feet long by 33 feet wide. The water is in constant circulation through an up-to-date filtration and chlorination plant. Daily records are kept of tests for free chlorine and alkalinity. Foot baths and showers are provided.

Mr. Scott, the Manager of the Baths, reports :—

The only addition to the Baths this year are the Zotofoam Baths, which give excellent results in the treatment of Rheumatism, etc.

“ In the same building are the **Stafford Corporation Royal Brine Baths**, which provide excellent facilities for the treatment of the various forms of Rheumatism under the supervision of the Honorary Consulting Physician, J. MacDonald Holmes, M.D., M.R.C.P. The scheme, under which patients from the Hospitals Contributory Scheme are receiving treatment, has proved very successful indeed—having treated over 100 persons, all of whom have greatly benefitted, and many have left at the end of the course entirely free from pain.”

Rivers and Streams.

The water courses in the Borough have been kept under observation. The Inspectors deal with any cases of foul water discharging into surface drains which they discover during the course of their inspections.

The contamination of the river by brine still continues. It finds its way into the watercourses, particularly the Pearl Brook, and eventually empties into the river. This contamination has more than one source, the most serious being from the tips of waste salt chipped from the pans, etc., at Salt Works.

As in previous years analyses of water from the Sowe and Penk were made for the Standing Committee on Rivers Pollution in July and September.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The following new sewers were completed during the year :—

SEWAGE SEWERS.

BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

9" diameter.	4,124 yards.
12" ,,	982 ,,
15" ,,	603 ,,

BY THE DEVELOPERS OF PRIVATE ESTATES.

9" diameter.	1,941 yards.
12" ,,	278 ,,

SURFACE WATER SEWERS.

BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

9" diameter.	1,155 yards.
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BY THE DEVELOPERS OF PRIVATE ESTATES.

9" diameter.	2,274 yards.
--------------	--------------

The work of sewerage the Baswich district is now well advanced, and it is anticipated that the system will be brought into operation about July next.

The drains of a large majority of the houses in the area added to the Borough in April, 1934, are not connected to the public sewer, but drain into cesspits or septic tanks. Unfortunately this system does not work satisfactorily. The difficulty is to get rid of the effluent from the tanks, which is frequently not purified to any appreciable extent; this is especially so in low-lying water-logged ground. In some cases the effluent has been discharged into watercourses. There have been a number of complaints of nuisances arising from this practice.

Good progress has been made with the sewerage of the Weeping Cross area, and when this is completed it will solve the difficulty of a large residential area, thus leaving one district to be dealt with in which trouble caused by the absence of proper means of drainage is becoming acute in places.

Closet Accommodation.

There are approximately 7,348 water closets with flushing cisterns and 1,355 waste water closets in the Borough. The number of pail and midden privies is about 76, in outlying houses, of which 18 are of the vault type, the remainder being pail closets.

The waste water closets still continue to give a great deal of trouble. Out of 1,223 stoppages 786 were in waste water closets, a decrease of 166 over last year. When stoppages are found to be due to unsuitable articles choking the drain, notices are sent to the householders concerned calling on them to exercise more care so as to prevent a repetition of the trouble.

During the year 54 waste water closets were converted into pedestal W.C.s with flushing cisterns.

Scavenging.

During the year 146 notices have been served calling for the provision of sufficient galvanised iron receptacles for household refuse. None of these were to replace wooden tubs.

Since the commencement of the scheme for the abolition of uncovered wooden receptacles sixteen years ago 4,184 galvanised bins have been purchased from the Corporation, and in addition a considerable number have been obtained privately. The notices which are now being served are for the replacement of worn-out galvanised receptacles.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Mr. J. H. Drury, the Senior Sanitary Inspector, presents the following table summarising the routine work of the year.

The scope and the extent of the work continue to increase, owing not only to the advance of the town but also to the steady increase in Public Health legislation. Its importance and the part it plays in improving the health of the town have been pointed out in recent annual reports. As in previous reports, the great majority of nuisances are remedied as the result of informal notices which is very satisfactory.

	No. of		Notices.		Notices complied with.	
	Inspections	Defects	Informal 1	Statutory 2	1	2
Visits to dwelling-houses	1938	...	...	...	...	...
Houses requiring cleansing .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Structural defects ...	114	117	53	8	40	6
Housing Acts	292	...	36	5	25	5
Lodging-houses	5	...	...	...	...	...
Factories & Work-shops	72	16	16	...	11	...
Dairies & Milkshops	128	4	4	...	4	...
Cowsheds	62	8	6	...	6	...
Bakehouses	29	9	9	...	9	...
Slaughterhouses	1168	2	2	...	2	...
Fried Fish Shops ...	56	8	8	...	8	...
Canal Boats .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ashpits & want of receptacles for refuse.	340	172	146	13	133	13
Deposits of refuse & manure	39	3	3	...	3	...
Water Closets	159	134	84	5	55	4
House drainage defects	96	58	42	5	29	4
Water supply	9	2	2	...	2	...
Animals improperly kept .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Offensive Trades other than Fried Fish Shops	9	...	...	...	...	...
Defective yard pavements	7	4	4	1	3	1
Other nuisances	12	8	6	...	6	...
Overcrowding	2423	...	...	...	...	...
Closet stoppages cleared .....	...	1223	...	...	...	...
	6958	1768	421	37	336	33

Unwholesome food :—

Number of surrenders ...	...	...	...	...	662
Number of seizures ...	...	...	...	...	0
Condemned by Magistrate ...	...	...	...	...	0
Prosecutions for exposing for sale	...	...	...	...	0
Convictions for exposing for sale	...	...	...	...	0

Precautions against Infectious Disease :—

Lots of infected bedding disinfected or destroyed ...	109
Houses disinfected after infectious disease ...	105

Smoke Abatement.

During the year 19 fixed observations have been made of the smoke emitted from the various chimney stacks in the Borough in addition to general observations. Where necessary, letters have been sent or verbal cautions given.

Premises and Occupations which can be Controlled by Bye-Laws or Regulations.

Milk Producers	...	...	...	...	31
Retail Purveyors of milk in the Borough	...				91
Retail Purveyors of milk whose premises are					
outside the Borough	...	...	...		23
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...		2
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	31
Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	...	10
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	36

Many of the producers of milk are also enumerated amongst the retailers.

There are no Bye-Laws in force in the Borough relating to houses let in lodgings or for tents, vans, sheds, etc., and there is no need for regulations in regard to underground sleeping rooms.

Offensive Trades.

There are 31 offensive trades on the Register, of which 26 are fried fish shops, and 63 visits have been made to these premises. The remainder consists of 1 fellmonger, 2 rag and bone merchants, and 2 gut scrapers.

The fish frying businesses have been carried on in a satisfactory manner, and no complaints have been received by the Department with regard to them.

Factory and Workshop Act.

INSPECTIONS. 59 inspections of Factories and 42 of Workshops and Workplaces were made. 25 defects were discovered, and action taken to have these remedied.

HOMEWORK.—Lists of outworkers were received as follows :—

- Wearing Apparel (making)
 - (Once a year) 6 lists relating to 11 workmen.
 - (Twice a year) 2 lists relating to 2 workmen.
- Umbrellas (once a year) 1 list relating to 1 workman.

REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.—The workshops on the Register at the end of the year were —

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	22
Boot-making and repairing	...	...	...	...	9
Dressmaking	...	...	...	...	2
Tailors	...	...	...	...	14
Cycle and motor repairing	...	...	...	...	15
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	47
					—
					109
					—

Miss Suffield, Health Visitor, in addition to her other duties, carried out inspections in 16 factories and 3 workrooms where women were employed, and reported 4 defects.

I.—INSPECTION,
Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspec- tions.	Written Notices.	Prosecu- tions.
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries) ...	59	5	—
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries)	41	—	—
WORKPLACES (Other than Outworkers' premises)	1	—	—
Total	101	5	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
NUISANCES UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.*				
Want of cleanliness	7	7	—	—
Want of ventilation	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances ...	4	3	—	—
SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.				
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	12	7	—	—
Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—
OFFENCES UNDER THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACTS.				
Illegal occupation of underground bake-house (s. 101) ...	—	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—
Total	25	19	—	—

*Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

Rag Gatherers.

Observations continue to be made on rag gatherers with respect to the common practice of exchanging rags for toys, but it has not been found necessary to institute proceedings in any case during the year.

Common Lodging Houses.

The number of Common Lodging Houses on the Register is now two. One, consisting of two cottages, which was not much used, has been discontinued, the keeper having died. One has been a large dwelling-house, and the other, factory premises, which have been adapted. They have been inspected, and found to be in a fair condition—taking into account the nature of the premises.

Cinemas, etc.

Visits have been paid to these premises, and their sanitary condition found to be satisfactory.

Shops.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector has been appointed to carry out the sanitary provisions of the Shops Act, 1934, the Shop Inspector having agreed to report any cases of shops where it appears to him that the sanitary arrangements are not satisfactory.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Number of Council houses found to be infested	7
Number of other houses found to be infested ...	10
Number of houses disinfested	17

Various well-known preparations have been employed for freeing houses infested with bed bugs, and the methods employed are that the furniture and bedding is removed from the infested house. The furniture is treated in the container in which it is removed, and the bedding is treated by steam under pressure in the disinfector, and the house is fumigated. The furniture and bedding is then returned in the container in which the furniture has been disinfested.

The methods employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses are that the house from which the tenant is removing is inspected, and, if found to be infested with vermin, the procedure as detailed above is carried out.

The above work is carried out by the staff of the Health Department.

In one instance, consisting of a row of Corporation houses, in which the infestation by bugs was very persistent, and were not completely eradicated by the preparation used by the Health Department, a firm of contractors was called in, who fumigated the house with Hydrogen Cyanide, and this, after a lapse of four months, appears to be effective.

Schools.

A sanitary survey of each school is made three times a year by the School Medical Inspector, whose reports are considered by the Education Authority, any necessary action being taken.

When absence from school is suspected to be due to illness, duplicate reports are sent by the Head Teacher to the Deputy School Medical Officer and to the M.O.H. Where necessary the School Nurse visits the home to investigate.

Convalescents from infectious diseases and contacts who have been excluded from school, are reported to the Deputy School Medical Officer by the M.O.H., and are seen by one of the Medical Inspectors at the School Clinic before being allowed to return to school.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Number of New Houses erected during the Year.

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)	310
(1) By the Local Authority	20
(2) By other Local Authorities	0
(3) By other bodies and persons	290
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :	
(1) By the Local Authority	8
(2) By other bodies and persons	0

1, Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year.

(1) (a) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	720
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1506
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	128
(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose	292
(3) Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	22
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	475

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	350
--	-----

3. Action Taken under Statutory Powers during the Year.

A. Proceedings under sections 17, 18, and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

- | | |
|---|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | 5 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices : | |
| (a) By owners | 5 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | 0 |

B.—Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :

- | | |
|--|----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 30 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices : | |
| (a) By owners | 27 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | 0 |

C.—Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

- | | |
|---|----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | 24 |
| (2) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | 25 |

D.—Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

- | | |
|---|---|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | 2 |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | 0 |

4. Housing Act, 1935—Overcrowding.

- | | |
|--|------|
| (a) (1) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at end of year | 164 |
| (2) Number of families dwelling therein | 174 |
| (3) Number of persons dwelling therein | 1315 |
| (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | 18 |
| (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | 28 |
| (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases | 190 |
| (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding | Nil |

(e)	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report.	
	Number of cases of overcrowding in houses owned by Local Authority abated during the year ...	10
	Number of houses in which overcrowding was abated under Section 19 and 20, Housing Act, 1930	2

The principal activity in which the Health Department was engaged during the year was the enumeration of the occupants of all dwelling houses in the Borough up to the rateable value of £30. A total of 7,358 houses were visited. The first survey commenced on January 6th, 1936, and was carried out by six local men engaged temporarily, assisted by the staff of the Department. It was completed, and the various returns for the Ministry of Health and this Authority completed by April 24th, 1936.

The second portion of the survey, which was necessary to ascertain the exact amount of overcrowding, and also the number each house would accommodate according to the standards laid down in the Housing Act was commenced as soon as the preliminary survey was completed, an additional Sanitary Inspector being appointed. This survey necessitates the measuring of all the rooms in each house. This work is still in progress at the end of the year. When completed, the particulars obtained will be very valuable, and be the basis of a permanent record of the condition of each working-class house in the Borough.

Particulars as to the result of the first survey were set out in the Annual Report for the year, 1935.

The Housing Committee have considered the results of the first survey, and have made the following proposals to abate the cases of overcrowding disclosed. That three bedroomed houses be allotted for the purpose on the Stone Road Estate, and that four bedroomed houses be built to meet the requirements of the larger families, and that the very large families be rehoused in suitable existing houses as opportunity arose. The overcrowding cases suitable to be rehoused in the three bedroomed houses have now to a great extent been rehoused, and the great need is the provision of four bedroomed type houses, which will not only allow of the abatement of more serious cases of overcrowding, but will also release a large number of smaller houses to accommodate persons on the waiting list.

Good progress has been made with regard to the five year programme for slum clearance agreed on by the Council of 17th July, 1933. All the houses have now been before the Housing Committee for their consideration, and have been dealt with in various ways, Demolition Orders being made in most cases under Section 19 of the Act of 1930. In other cases arrangements have been made with the owners in six instances to demolish when existing tenancies expire. In addition to the houses mentioned in the programme, twenty four houses were dealt with by Demolition Orders, which the Housing Committee considered as unfit, and for which the various owners failed to submit any satisfactory scheme of reconstruction.

In one instance appeal was made to the County Court. This was a case of three cottages in Mill Bank. When the case came up for hearing the question as to the unfitness of the cottages was considered less than the means of the owner, and eventually an agreement was approved by the Judges by which the owner, who was advanced in years, and lived in one of the cottages, should retain the use of them during her life, and upon her decease they should be demolished.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

There are 31 cowkeepers and 91 milk sellers registered within the Borough. In addition, the names of 23 persons who reside outside and retail milk inside the Borough are on the Register. 62 visits were paid to the cowsheds and 128 to the milk shops; in each case the occupier's attention was called to the requirements as to cleansing and lime-washing. 38 of the milk sellers are registered only for the sale of sterilized milk in sealed bottles.

The improvement shown with regard to the cleanliness of the cows and the sheds during the previous twelve months has been maintained, although conditions are not by any means perfect. A satisfactory feature is the increase in the number of milk producers who have installed sterilizing apparatus, of whom there are now eight. The need for the greatest attention to details in the production and handling of milk to ensure its cleanliness is continually being reiterated on the occasion of the inspectors' visits.

Designated Milks.

Two vendors supply Tuberculin Tested Milk in the town by motor delivery. There are also four retail shops where this milk is sold.

The Corporation give their support and encouragement to this purer milk supply by restricting their contracts for the Isolation Hospital and Child Welfare Centre to Tuberculin Tested Milk.

The examination of samples for bacterial content and for tubercle bacilli is carried out by the County Council. The following results were obtained from milk on sale in the Borough —

	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory due to			
			Coli-form bacilli	Count	Col. Bac. and Count	Tuberculous
Specially designated Milks ...	23	19	4*	0	0	0
Ordinary Milks ...	58	43	7	1	2	5

* Tuberculin Tested.

Meat.

The total amount of meat condemned as unfit for human consumption was 37 tons 15 $\frac{1}{4}$ cwt.

	Carcases Inspected	Entire carcase condemned	Parts of carcases or organs condemned	For T.B.	Other Diseases	Approximate No. of Animals killed
Cattle (other than cows) ...	4920	11	50	42	19	9949
Cows ...		74	132	157	49	
Calves	10410	30	3	3	30	17763
Sheep & Lambs		30	15	...	51	
Pigs ...	17580	54	696	610	140	18493
	32910	205	896	812	289	46205

The meat exposed for sale in the butchers' shops is kept under observation, and the retail meat market at the Corporation Market Hall is visited each week. Also the various private slaughterhouses are visited at times of slaughter.

As in previous years by far the greater proportion of the meat was examined at one large slaughterhouse to which doubtful carcasses are sent from the surrounding district for disposal. There is again an increase in the number of animals found to be unsound but the amount of meat condemned shows a decrease. This is due to the large number of pigs dealt with, as these are very liable to local tubercular infection of the neck glands. This important work takes up a considerable amount of the inspectors' time, both during the day and in the evenings. The reduction in the number of slaughterhouses has been of great assistance in making possible a more efficient inspection of the animals slaughtered in the town.

Classification of Slaughterhouses.

	In 1920.	In Jan., 1936.	In Dec., 1936.
Registered ...	11	2	2
Licensed ...	11	8	8
	—	—	—
	22	10	10
	—	—	—

Other Foods.

Regular inspections have been made of the foodstuffs exposed for sale in the Market Hall, and they were found to be in sound condition.

Thirty-five tins of fruit and a 6lb. tin of ox-tongue were condemned as unfit for human consumption after inspection at the request of the owners.

Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

This act is administered by the County Council, but, by courtesy of the County Medical Officer, I am able to include the results of the examination of samples taken in the Borough during 1936.

Article	Number Submitted	Genuine	Adulterated
Milk—(Pasteurised)	3	3	—
„ Grade A. (T.T.)	2	2	—
„ Grade A.	1	1	—
„ Ordinary	40	38	2*
Malt Vinegar	25	24	1†
Sulphur Tablets	1	1	—
Boracic Acid Powder	1	1	—
Zinc, Starch and Boracic Powder...	1	1	—
Brimstone and Treacle	1	1	—
Cocoanut Oil	1	1	—
Honey	1	1	—
Marshmallow Ointment	1	1	—
South African Peas	1	1	—
Butter	3	3	—
Tea	3	3	—
Cheshire Cheese	1	1	—
Lard	1	1	—
White Pepper	1	1	—
Curry	1	1	—
Ground Ginger	1	1	—
Olive Oil	1	1	—
Liquid Paraffin	1	1	—
Cod Liver Oil	1	1	—
Glycerine	1	1	—
Total	94	91	3

* Deficient in fat due to non-stirring. Retailer cautioned.

† Retailer cautioned.

Ice Cream Shops.

There are 11 premises on which ice-cream is made in the Borough. Eleven inspections have been made. The majority of these places are small shops, and the ice-cream is only made during the summer months. The utensils and premises were kept in a clean condition.

Nothing further has been done with regard to the compulsory registration of makers of ice-cream.

Shell-Fish.

The shell-fish on sale in the Borough are obtained from wholesalers at Birmingham, Billingsgate, Southport, and Flamborough.

Infectious diseases (other than tuberculosis) notified during the 53 weeks from 29th December, 1935, to 2nd January, 1937

Notifiable Disease.	At all Ages	Case Distribution as to Wards.						Marston Road Hosp.	Gen. Infirm.	Under 1 year	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 & over	Removed to Isolation Hospital
		North			South																	
		East	West	Baswich																		
Scarlet Fever .....Cases ... Deaths	69 —	18 —	6 —	23 —	20 —	2 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	3 —	2 —	2 —	38 —	11 —	4 —	7 —	2 —	— —	— —	55 —	
Diphtheria .....Cases ... Deaths	10 1	2 —	2 1	3 —	3 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	4 1	— —	3 —	1 —	1 —	— —	— —	10 —	
Enteric (including Paratyphoid) Cases ... Deaths	3 1	— —	1 —	— —	1 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	1 1	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	
Puerperal Fever .....Cases ... Deaths	1 —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	
Puerperal Pyrexia ...Cases ... Deaths	4 —	2 —	— —	2 —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	4 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	
Pneumonia Cases ... Deaths	51 8	9 1	12 1	10 2	10 —	1 —	4 1	5 3	1 —	5 —	1 —	1 —	3 —	7 —	2 —	3 —	7 3	7 —	11 2	3 3	— —	
Erysipelas.....Cases ... Deaths	7 —	4 —	— —	— —	2 —	— —	— —	1 —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	1 —	1 —	2 —	1 —	— —	
Cerebro-spinal Fever Cases ... Deaths	2 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	2 1	— —	— —	— —	1 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum Cases ... Deaths	1 —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Whooping Cough, Measles, and Influenza paid their seasonal visits in the early part of the year to the town. Whooping Cough was widespread and prolonged, but none of these diseases were of a severe character, and did not affect the mortality rates beyond usual levels. Scarlet Fever, as was the case last year, provided a large number of cases, but it also, fortunately, remained mild in character. One School—Rickerscote C.E.—was closed for five days in March on account of Measles.

VACCINATION STATISTICS.—The following figures for 1935 apply to the whole of the Stafford Union Area —

Births registered	...	...	...	...	560
Successfully vaccinated	...	...	...	144	
Insusceptible	...	...	...	1	
Exemptions	...	...	...	389	
Died unvaccinated	...	...	...	16	
Removed	...	...	...	10	
				<hr/> 560 <hr/>	

Scarlet Fever.

There were sixty-nine cases of Scarlet Fever notified, as against eighty-two last year. A table showing Ward and seasonal distribution follows.

Ward	Total	Jan-Mar.	April-June	July-Sept	Oct-Dec
North	18	7	6	2	3
South	6	2	1	1	2
East.....	23	9	5	4	5
West	20	10	4	1	5
Baswich	2	1	1	—	—
	69	29	17	8	15

Sex distribution : Males, 29 ; Females, 40.
Age distribution—see table, page 33.

In three instances only were there more than one case in one family. There were no “ return ” cases.

The distribution as to Schools, i.e., those of school age, was—

Corporation Street group	...	...	...	17
Tenter Banks	...	...	...	7
St. Leonard's Avenue	...	...	...	6
Stone Road	...	...	...	5
St. Mary's	...	...	...	4
St. Patricks	...	...	...	2
Littleworth	...	...	...	2
St. Austin's	...	...	...	1

The evidence discloses that the town had more than the usual number of Scarlet Fever cases, although fewer than last year, that the disease was of a mild type, and that in no one place did it attain epidemic proportions.

Fifty-five cases were removed to Hospital. When the standard of housing has improved it will be possible to isolate more of these cases at home, and thus ensure at all times accommodation for those cases where circumstances are such that nursing in Hospital is essential, and also to release beds for the admission of cases from poor homes suffering from Measles and Whooping Cough.

The infected houses had 0.86 rooms per person, as compared with 1.24 the census figure for the town as a whole.

Case rate per 1,000 living, for Stafford 2.22 ; for England and Wales 2.53.

Diphtheria.

Ten cases of the disease were notified during the year. All cases were admitted to Hospital. There was one death in Hospital, a child aged five.

The infected houses had 1.00 rooms per person.

Case rate per 1,000 living, for Stafford 0.32 ; for England and Wales 1.39.

Death rate per 1,000 living, for Stafford 0.03 ; for England and Wales 0.07.

Enteric Fever.

Three cases of the Typhoid group of fevers were notified. One was admitted to the General Infirmary from an outside district, and was transferred to the Isolation Hospital. The second case apparently contracted the disease during a visit to the South where Enteric was prevalent. The third case,

who died, contracted the disease from a source unknown. All were children, and complete bacteriological investigations, including blood tests, were carried out in the two families concerned.

Case rate per 1,000 living, for Stafford 0.09 ; for England and Wales 0.06.

Death rate per 1,000 living, for Stafford 0.03 ; for England and Wales 0.01.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.

One case of the former and four cases of the latter were notified. One case was notified from 52 Marston Road. None of the other cases were admitted to Hospital.

With regard to facilities for treatment, Dr. F. M. Blumer is the consultant under the Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, bacteriological examinations are provided by the County Council, hospital treatment is available at the General Infirmary, and trained nursing is provided by the District Nursing Association.

The rates for these conditions are best expressed in relation to the number of births registered rather than to population. When calculated on this basis the rates are — Stafford, Puerperal Fever, 2.44, and Puerperal Pyrexia, 9.66 ; and England and Wales, Puerperal Fever, 3.27, and Puerperal Pyrexia, 9.64 per 1,000 total births (i.e. live and still-births) registered during the year.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

These diseases are not notifiable, and, thus, the information obtained from the Education Authority every week as to the presence of these diseases in the Schools is particularly valuable, as it enables the Health Visitors to visit those families where there are babies notified from this source. There was one death from Measles, cases of which were not numerous, and there was also a death from Whooping Cough, of which disease there were many cases. The Health Visitors made 220 visits.

Pneumonia.

Notified cases, 51. Total deaths, 19 ; deaths of notified cases, 8 ; others, 11.

Case rate per 1,000 population, locally 1.6, and for the country, 1.11, and for the Smaller Towns, .96.

A short table has been drawn up to disclose the quarterly incidence of the disease.

	Quarter Ending			
	March 31	June 30	Sept. 30	Dec. 31
Notifications	32	9	6	4
Total Deaths	7	7	2	3

For Ward and age distribution see table, page 33.

Notification of this disease refers to the Primary or Influenzal form, whereas deaths include all forms, including, in addition to the above, cases of Pneumonia following upon Bronchitis or other lung disease. When Influenza is prevalent it is always associated with an increase in the deaths from Pneumonia. Pneumonia cases travel badly, and, thus, it is fortunate that in this area we have a Local Nursing Association, who, on request from the Doctor in attendance, provide for the nursing of these cases at their homes. Eight cases of Pneumonia in children under the age of five were visited by the Health Visitors to ensure that where it is required nursing assistance may be obtained. In necessitous cases extra nourishment has been obtained from the Guild of Social Welfare or from the Public Assistance Committee.

Erysipelas.

There were seven cases notified. There were no deaths.

Case rate per 1,000, for Stafford 0.22 ; for England and Wales 0.40.

Cerebro-spinal Fever.

Two cases from the General Infirmary were notified. One case died. These cases were not resident in the Borough.

Dr. F. M. Blumer is appointed by the County Council under the Regulations of 1919, to act as consultant for the Mid-Stafford area, which includes Stafford Borough.

Bacteriological Work.

The County Laboratory, provided by the Staffordshire County Council, undertakes all bacteriological and chemical investigations required by this Authority. I am indebted to Dr. Menton and Mr. Jones, who have assisted me with their advice during the year.

During the year bacteriological reports were received by the Medical Officer of Health on the following :—

Swabs examined for Diphtheria bacilli	...	287
Other swabs	... ..	45
Blood	... ..	37
Sputum	... ..	131
Cerebro-spinal fluid	... ..	34
Pus	... ..	48
Urine	... ..	12
Faeces	... ..	31
Other examinations	... ..	34

Issues of Diphtheria Antitoxin, etc.

Supplies of Diphtheria antitoxin are available at the public expense for necessitous cases. These are used by medical practitioners for the treatment of cases of Diphtheria, or possible Diphtheria, it being of the utmost importance that such treatment should be commenced without waiting for bacteriological confirmation, and so losing valuable time. Few cases of this disease, if any, will fail to do well if given a sufficient dose of antitoxin on the first day of the illness.

Immunisation against Diphtheria is offered free through the Welfare Centre for children under school age and also to the younger children at the Schools through the School Medical Department's Scheme.

School	No. of forms	Acceptances.	%	Immunised	Remarks
Littleworth	21	14	66	13	1 case Asthma
St. Leonard's	35	15	40	15	
St. Austin's	3	3	100	3	
Tenter Banks	60	24	40	23	1 case absent
St. Patrick's	30	16	50	16	
Forebridge	36	16	44	16	
Stone Road	116	48	41	47	1 case absent
Corporation St.	123	69	56	68	2 Reactions
Rickerscote	30	20	66	20	Not completed —8 still requiring 3rd dose.

WELFARE.

Welfare babies ... (at 5, Martin St.)		106		106	
General Practitioners		11		11	
Total	454	312		338	

Eleven children of and under school age have been immunised privately with material supplied by this Council.

There is no doubt that the degree of co-operation of the Teachers has a distinct bearing upon the success of the scheme. This is indicated by the returns in the attached table.

The material used in this Borough is Evans' T.A.F.

A number of children had been immunised, approximately 15%, prior to admission to School, and this had a direct bearing on the percentage of acceptances at the Schools.

Two cases were reported as having had a reaction—these were reported upon by their Doctors some time after the injections, and so I cannot make any comment excepting that they were School children and that I have not had any reactions among the babies.

It will be noted that no child has been Schick tested. This has been unavoidable, but if possible it is proposed to carry it out next year.

It is expected that the proportion of pre-school children immunised will steadily increase, and thus in the course of time the inoculation of school children will cease. This procedure will be hastened if and when the number of injections can be diminished with safety.

I have had no reports of children immunised who have contracted the disease.

Isolation Hospital.

One hundred and eleven cases were admitted to Hospital, classified as follows :—

Disease.	Stafford Borough.	Stafford Rural District.	Other Authorities	Total.
Scarlet fever	54	29	2	85
Diphtheria	10	9	—	19
Diphtheria carriers	3	—	—	3
Tonsillitis	2	—	—	2
Paratyphoid B.	—	—	1	1
Measles	—	1	—	1
Total	69	39	3	111

One case of Diphtheria died ; the remaining cases recovered. The average length of stay was thirty days for the Scarlet Fever cases and forty-five days for the Diphtheria.

Difficulty is experienced in dealing with cases of mixed infections, i.e., cases admitted for one disease subsequently developing another, with the risk of infecting other patients in the ward. On each occasion that this has happened this year it has been possible to transfer the offender to the empty Typhoid block, and, fortunately, no further cases have arisen. Should the reorganisation of Infectious Hospitals under Section 63 of the Local Government Act, 1929, not mature as suggested by the County, it is essential that a cubicle block of beds be erected, and an extension made to the Nursing Quarters. This would make for mobility, and increase the number and variety of cases which could be dealt with.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

One case was notified in 1936. Vision was not affected.

Tuberculosis.

Analysis of the new cases and deaths during the calendar year, 1936 :—

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	—
5—15	2	3	2	3	—	1	—	—
15—25	2	6	1	—	1	1	1	—
25—35	5	3	—	1	2	2	—	1
35—45	6	2	—	—	4	2	—	1
45—55	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
55—65	2	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
65 and over	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals ...	21	16	5	5	11	7	2	2

The death rate from all forms of Tuberculosis was 0.70 as compared with 0.69 last year.

Year.	Number of deaths.		Rate per 1,000.			New Cases.
	Res.	Non-Res.	Res.	Non-Res.	Total.	
1926	26	5	0.89	0.17	1.06	60
1927	20	4	0.69	0.14	0.83	53
1928	24	6	0.83	0.20	1.03	73
1929	21	5	0.73	0.17	0.90	61
1930	19	8	0.65	0.27	0.92	64
1931	18	3	0.61	0.10	0.71	49
1932	26	9	0.87	0.30	1.17	44
1933	19	2	0.64	0.07	0.71	47
1934	23	3	0.76	0.10	0.86	58
1935	16	5	0.53	0.16	0.69	47
1936	18	4	0.58	0.12	0.70	47

Notifications and Deaths of Respiratory and Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis assigned as to Wards :—

Ward	Notifications		Deaths	
	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory
North	14	3	5	1
South	4	2	3	2
East	11	2	4	—
West	7	3	5	1
Baswich	1	—	1	—

The “ Balance Sheet ” for the Register may be given as follows :—

Number on Register at	Deaths in 1936	*23
31st Dec., 1935... ..	Removals	6
Notifications in 1936 ...	“ Recovered ”	27
Unnotified deaths ...	Number on Register	
Transfers	at 31st Dec., 1936 ...	297
Returned to district ...		
	353	353

*Includes one death attributed to other causes.

Distribution of known cases as to Wards :—

North	South	East	West	Baswich	Total
87	58	86	55	11	297

NOTIFICATION.—There were four deaths of persons who had not been notified as suffering from Tuberculosis. Three died in Hospital; two of these were thought to have been previously notified, the other was a case of meningitis, and, owing to its suddenness, was not notified. The fourth case was one of long standing, and in this instance her Doctor understood that his predecessor had notified the case.

Year.	Number of Un-notified Deaths.	Average interval between notification and Death.
1926	2	14.0 months
1927	5	27.2 „
1928	3	16.5 „
1929	5	17.2 „
1930	7	30.1 „
1931	1	16.8 „
1932	9	30.0 „
1933	3	44.0 „
1934	5	42.1 „
1935	4	18.0 „
1936	4	30.0 „

Thirty-one cases from the Borough of Stafford were admitted as in-patients to the following institutions during 1936 :

Prestwood Sanatorium	...	...	...	14
Groundslow Sanatorium	...	...	...	10
Yarnfield Tuberculosis Hospital	...	...	...	3
Himley Children's Sanatorium	...	...	...	2
Standon Hall	...	...	...	2

AFTER-CARE.—The Stafford Guild of Social Welfare undertakes this work in the area. An annual grant up to £2 per case relieved is made by the Joint Committee towards the expenses of the After-Care Committee, but it cannot be too widely known that the primary aim of the work is not to relieve distress amongst the tuberculous but rather to help them to become self-supporting. All cases are submitted to the Committee by the Tuberculosis Officer and the following is a brief summary of the main objects of the work :—

1. To allay any fears that may exist as to the danger of infection in early cases, subject to the patient taking reasonable precautions.
2. Finding suitable employment and providing clothing and food in necessitous cases.
3. The provision of beds and bedding to enable patients to sleep alone.
4. When necessary to assist the families of patients who are under treatment in residential institutions.

5. To take a general interest in the welfare of cases submitted to their care, and if necessary to visit them at their own homes. These visits are not intended to take the place of the visits paid by the Health Visitors appointed by the Council.

HEALTH VISITING.—The Health Visitors have paid 38 primary visits to tuberculous persons on notification and 669 subsequent visits.

Although during the year 6 cases were removed to Corporation houses and 6 into larger private houses, the sleeping accommodation has not improved. This can be explained partly by the fact that full advantage is not taken by the patients of the accommodation which is available, e.g. husband and wife will often not be separated, and also to the fact that an extra bed costs money.

The sleeping accommodation of 250 of the cases on the register was as follows:—

Separate bedroom.	Separate bed (share room).	Share bed.
85 (34.0%)	48 (19.2%)	115 (46.0%)

while 2 or 0.8%, occupied shelters in the open air.

Shelters have been provided by the Joint Committee for use by patients residing in the area, but many of the worst cases are not well enough to sleep outside, and they are not always willing to be removed to Hospital, even when accommodation is available. There is no doubt that patients do much better in shelters than when they sleep in ill-ventilated rooms, but it requires a considerable amount of determination to persevere with the treatment, especially during the winter months.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, and Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62.

No action was necessary under either of these provisions, the former of which relates to tuberculous employees in the milk trade and the latter to compulsory removal of infectious cases to hospital.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Notification of Births Acts.

409 births were notified (360 by midwives, 19 by doctors, and 30 by parents). 16 other births were registered, making 425 births taking place in the borough during the year. Of this total 95.5% were notified in accordance with the above Acts.

Health Visiting.

The following is a summary of visits in regard to Infant Welfare :—

BIRTHS.

Primary visits	...	...	...	...	372
Re-visits	...	...	...	...	1293

ANTE-NATAL VISITS.

Primary	...	...	...	...	150
Re-visits	...	...	...	...	93
Visits to older children (1—5)	...	...	...	...	4504
Inquiries into infant deaths	...	...	...	...	21
Inquiries into still births	...	...	...	...	22
Unclassified visits	...	...	...	...	89

It will be seen that the great majority of the births are visited, and that the older children (1—5) receive their share of attention too.

Children Act, 1908, and Children and Young Persons Act, 1932.

On Register, 1st January	Removals	...	...	...	8
1936 14	Adopted	...	...	...	1
New cases 13	Over nine years	...	...	...	1
	On Register, 31st Dec-				
	ember, 1935	...	...	...	17
	—				—
	27				27
	—				—

The number of visits during the year was 84.

Infant Welfare Centre.

The Centre is held at the Wesley Schools, Queen Street, and is open from 10 a.m. to noon, and from 2 to 4 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays. It has been well attended, and the numbers continue to be maintained in spite of the falling birth rate.

For normal children the attendances recommended to mothers are :—

Weekly during the first year ; monthly during the second year ; and at least once a quarter afterwards, until the child begins to attend school.

During the year a circular was received from the Ministry emphasizing the need for intensive medical supervision of the Toddler. The question of holding an additional session was considered, but, recognising the fact that many of the

mothers were attending on account of infants, it was thought advisable to encourage her to bring the "family" rather than to bring each child separately. To encourage further the better attendance of the Toddler a "Birthday" scheme, i.e. "the child is brought to the Centre during that week in which his or her birthday occurs," has been introduced. The response has justified the measure.

ANTE-NATAL CARE.—In June of this year the domiciliary scheme, approved by the Minister of Health for twelve months, came into force. It has been very successful. One hundred and fifty-six expectant mothers were seen by their own Doctors at the request of the midwife, and thirteen mothers were medically examined after their confinement.

The scheme as submitted is reproduced below —

- (a) That a fee of 5s. per consultation be offered to doctors for each of the following —
 - (1) A general examination early in pregnancy.
 - (2) A full obstetrical examination at the seventh or eighth month.
 - (3) A post-natal examination.in return for appropriate reports on forms to be provided.
- (b) The scheme to apply only to mothers who are not engaging a doctor to attend them.
- (c) In the case of insured women, already entitled to ante-natal care, a fee of 2s. 6d. will be paid for each report.
- (d) That midwives be invited to co-operate by sending their patients to doctors.

Intensive efforts are being made to induce expectant mothers to engage the midwife at an earlier period, for it is the custom in this, and other areas and a very persistent one to eradicate, for the midwife to be engaged from the sixth month onwards. This cuts right across the fundamentals of the scheme, i.e. a general examination at the third month of pregnancy and again as late in pregnancy as possible. At present the patient appears before the doctor at a time when it is sometimes too late to correct any disability discovered during a general examination, and too early to determine the prognosis of the approaching confinement. The doctor is bound to ask for another opportunity to examine the patient, which may amount to only a few weeks to a three months interval. This is harmful, as it induces in some of the mothers a feeling of apprehension, which is the last thing to be desired.

This authority is responsible for—

- (a) Medical ante-natal examinations.
- (b) Provision of consultants for difficult cases.
- (c) The supply of free milk in necessitous cases.
- (d) Post-natal medical examinations.

The County Council, as the Local Supervising Authority of Midwives, is responsible for the control of the midwives, and also for the payments for the medical treatment, which may be required as a result of illness disclosed by the midwife herself or through the operation of the domiciliary scheme.

The percentage of total notified births (live and still) represented by the total number of mothers seen at the Ante-natal Centre and under the Domiciliary Scheme, which was in operation for only 6 months, was 42.

The services of the Consultant were required on four occasions for the following conditions—Contracted pelvis 1, Toxæmia 2, Chorea 1.

Sterilized maternity outfits are on sale at cost price (3s. and 6s.), and may be paid for by instalments. The Maternity Committee of the Guild of Social Welfare have kindly assisted in providing these for necessitous cases.

Number of consultation days	...	...	...	99
New cases registered (under 1 year)	...	...	...	204
New cases registered (1 to 5 years)	...	...	...	38
Total attendances (by children under 1 year)	...	...	...	3051
Total attendances (by children, 1 to 5 years)	...	...	...	4177
Average attendance per week (two sessions)	...	...	...	151
Ante-natal consultations up to June 1st :—				
New cases registered	...	...	...	23
Total attendances	...	...	...	28
Ante-natal " domiciliary scheme " consultations with patients' own Doctor from June onwards—				
Insured	...	...	...	52
Non-insured	...	...	...	104
				— 156
Post-natal consultations (from June onwards).				
Insured	...	...	...	5
Non-insured	...	...	...	8
				— 13

Thanks are due to the members of the Maternity Committee of the Guild of Social Welfare for regular assistance on

Centre days, an indispensable help in the running of the Centre, also for the loan of Maternity Bags to necessitous cases, to the Mayor's Fund for clothing for the mothers and children, and to the Guild's Boot Fund for boots for children under school age.

The following additional schemes are in operation.

HOME HELPS.—A small panel of women has been approved by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee to act as home helps. They may be engaged through the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre or 5, Martin Street. A graduated scale of charges has been drawn up, based on the family income, and these fees must be paid at least one month before the home help is required. 17 cases were so assisted during 1936.

COMPENSATION TO MIDWIVES FOR LOSS OF CASES.—When a patient sent by a midwife for Ante-natal care is admitted to a hospital or home for her confinement on the advice of the doctor, a sum of 10s. will be paid to the midwife by the Committee as compensation for the loss of the case.

DENTAL TREATMENT.—The County Health Visiting Committee have agreed to provide dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers and children under school age who attend the Welfare Centre.

Mr. W. H. Jones, M.A. Cantab, L.D.S., R.C.S. Eng., the County Dental Officer, has kindly supplied me with the following report —

“ By arrangement the dental treatment for Expectant and Nursing Mothers and also for the “ toddlers ” attending the centres of the Borough Maternity and Child Welfare Committee is carried out by the dental surgeons attached to the staff of the County Council ; patients attending the Mill Bank Dental Clinic by appointment.

“ During the year 1936 there were treated 25 mothers and 63 ‘ toddlers,’ a total of 88 patients.

“ The mothers treated made 125 attendances and their treatment comprised the extraction of 191 permanent teeth under local anæsthetic ; the completion of 16 fillings ; 3 scalings ; 17 sundry operations and the insertion of 6 artificial dentures, a total of 233 operations.

“ The ‘ toddlers,’ each of whom was accompanied by a parent, made 63 attendances and their treatment comprised the extraction of 83 temporary teeth, with local application of anodyne solution, 9 dressings and 2 sundries, a total of 94 operations.

“The arrangement made whereby the Medical Officer of the Welfare Centre was responsible for the selection of suitable cases for treatment among the mothers attending the centre was continued and was found satisfactory. The Health Visitors co-operated in visiting cases and recommending toddlers. In short the joint Scheme worked harmoniously during the year.”

Baby Day.

Miss Suffield contributes the following account :—

The Baby Day Celebrations were held during the last week in June.

A circular letter was sent to the clergy and ministers of religion inviting their co-operation by preaching special sermons on June 21st.

The chemists and drapers gave special displays of mothers' and children's requirements. These displays add to the interest of Baby Week, being both educational and spectacular.

The Welfare Centre was open to the public on Monday, June 22nd, and many mothers brought friends. The pram parade prizes were on view, and encouraged wavering entrants.

We were again indebted to Messrs. Brookfield's Successors for the loan of a canopy for perambulator, and to Mrs. Drury for her assistance in decorating it. The perambulator was on view at the Welfare Centre for a few weeks, and was very helpful to mothers making their first attempt in this form of decoration.

A garden party was organised by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, and took place in the Victoria Pleasure Grounds on Wednesday, June 24th.

It was preceded by a Decorated Pram Parade, which presented a pretty and animated appearance as it passed through the principal streets.

The decorated perambulators were judged in the Market Hall. The standard of decoration was excellent, and caused the judges some difficulty in making the awards.

The Parade was marshalled by Councillors Atkinson and Jennings, and was headed by the Stafford Town Band. The Mayor (in his chain and robes of office) followed by members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, the Judges, Competitors, and members of the Infant Welfare Centre. Brilliant sunshine favoured the day, and the route, which was by way of Greengate Street and Newport Road, was crowded by spectators.

Arriving at the Victoria Pleasure Grounds the guests were welcomed by Alderman Adamson (Chairman of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee), and tea was very expeditiously served by Councillors Mrs. Morgan and Mrs. Turney, assisted by a band of willing helpers.

The Pram Parade and attendance prizes were presented by Mrs. Douglas, representing the Mayoress. The Deputy Mayoress (Councillor Mrs. Robinson) presented the Mothercraft Certificates, and Mrs. F. G. Lloyd the Blumer Shield and Medals to the runners-up. The judging for this Competition took place early in June. Dr. J. M. Cowan kindly acted as adjudicator. The choice of twin girls for the premier honour was very popular.

The prizes for the best attendance at the Welfare Centre from birth to school age were given by Mrs. Aspin, Councillor Miss Westhead, the Trades and Labour Council, Alderman Adamson, Mrs. F. G. Lloyd, and Mrs. A. Hourd.

The Band played selections of music until 6 p.m.

Free Supply of Milk to Mothers and Infants.

The providing of milk to those families in which the standard of living is below the scale given below cannot but be an insurance on the part of the community for a section of its population, unable to adequately support itself against sickness and illness which sooner or later would have to be met out of public funds. At present there are restrictions as to the period covered, but the Ministry have indicated the desirability of extending the period in the case of expectant mothers from the third month onwards throughout pregnancy and the lactation period, and in the case of children from the time breast feeding ceases to the entering of the child upon its school life.

During the past year the number of applications received was 97. Of these, 90 were granted and 7 refused. The number on the register at the commencement of the year was 57, and at the end of the year 51.

Breast feeding is encouraged but the modern tendency is to spare the mother, and consequently in many instances well meant but disastrous advice is tendered by friends, confidence is shaken, and the child is weaned. Only 42 per cent of 345 babies who completed the age of nine months during 1936 were breast fed for over six months.

The following table describes the situation :—

79% were breast fed at the first visit,
60% were breast fed at the end of three months, and
42% were breast fed for over six months, while
2% were artificially fed at the first visit.

The granting of free milk is arrived at after the following allowances have been made —

Rent (including rates) and 5/- additional allowance.
10/- for first adults (man and wife £1).
5/6 for each other member of the family over 14 years.
4/- for each child under 14 years.

Orthopædic Treatment.

The number of cases which have been under treatment during the year was 20. Of these, five were new cases, and during the same period five cases were discharged.

Congenital conditions, usually involving the feet or lower extremities, form the largest group, i.e., 12 cases ; rickets 5, birth injuries 2, and Poliomyelitis 1.

Of the five who ceased treatment, two were discharged, one was transferred to the Education Authority, and two cases gave up attending when the disability was almost cured. It is extremely difficult to persuade some parents to continue treatment until their child is discharged. They do not see the necessity for the continuation of exercises, and the need for the re-education of enfeebled muscles after the deformity has been apparently remedied. Once the spectacular part of the treatment, i.e., presence of the surgeon, operation, and plaster treatment, is over, their interest flags, and, in order to cope with this aspect of the situation, the Committee introduced in September a scale of charges for Clinic treatment (scale given below). It was thought that parents who have a monetary interest in their children's treatment will continue to attend more thoroughly, especially when they realise that their investment and pecuniary sacrifice in the past might be jeopardised if the treatment is not continued

right up to the time the surgeon himself is satisfied as to cure. In a number of these cases the whole charge, i.e. 3/6, is met by the parent as will be seen in the analysis of the cases attending for the last quarter of the year, i.e., 3 cases are charged 3/6 a visit, 1 case pays 3/—, 2 cases 2/—, 2 cases 1/—, 2 cases 6d., 2 cases 3d., 3 cases free.

The cost to this Authority was —

	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Clinic	22 15 0	15 15 0	13 6 0	15 7 6
Hospital ...	40 14 3	19 0 0	—	13 18 2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£63 9 3	£34 15 0	£13 6 0	£29 5 8

Total—£140/15/11.

The expense of the scheme depends on the amount of Hospital treatment required, and where this is prolonged it is found that the remedying of crippling defects may amount to as much as £100—150 per child in exceptional circumstances. Against this must be set the life-long dependance on the community of the cripple if the deformity is not remedied.

Maternity Beds.

Difficult cases are admitted to the General Infirmary and also to the County Institution, where also a number of cases are dealt with who come from unsatisfactory homes.

Maternal Mortality.

The investigation of maternal deaths is carried out by the M.O.H. under a scheme, organised by the County M.O.H., which secures the co-operation of the Inspectors of Midwives who also inquire into cases of Puerperal fever and Puerperal pyrexia.

Co-ordination with the School Medical Service.

Abnormal children are, as far as possible, reported to the School Medical Department on reaching school age.

Information with regard to houses infected with Measles and Whooping cough is largely derived from reports received from the school teachers by arrangement with the School Medical Department, and any homes where there are children under five are visited by one of the Health Visitors.





